

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-40. (CANCELED)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A recombinant transfer vector, comprising: a polynucleotide comprising a *cis*-acting central initiation region, which is the central polypyrimidine tract ("cPPT"), and a *cis*-acting termination region, which is the central terminator sequence ("CTS"), wherein the cPPT and CTS are of the central polypyrimidine tract ("cPPT") retroviral-like origin and derived from a retrotransposon and which form a triple-stranded sequence (DNA triplex);

a defined nucleotide sequence (transgene or sequence of interest); and regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression, and packaging, wherein said regulatory signals are of retroviral or retroviral-like origin;

and wherein said transfer vector transfers the defined nucleotide sequence into
the nucleus of a cell.

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the transgene or the sequence of interest is contained in an expression cassette comprising regulatory signals for transcription and expression.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression, and packaging, and the polynucleotide comprising the cPPT and CTS regions are derived from an HIV-type retrovirus.

44. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 43, wherein the HIV-type retrovirus is HIV-1 or HIV-2.

45. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the polynucleotide is a DNA sequence comprising the cis-acting central initiation region (cPPT) and the termination region (CTS) of an HIV-1 retroviral genome.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the cPPT and CTS regions of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 21, and SEQ ID NO: 33, or one of these sequences mutated by deletion or insertion of one or more nucleotides, provided that the polynucleotide permits the formation of a triplex on reverse transcription of the vector under the control of suitable regulatory elements.

47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein gag, pol, and env sequences from an HIV retrovirus are provided by one or more additional vector(s).

48. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 47, wherein the HIV retrovirus is HIV-1 or HIV-2.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein gag and pol sequences from an HIV retrovirus are provided by one or more additional vector(s) and env sequence from a different HIV retrovirus or from a virus is provided by an additional vector.

50. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression and packaging, and the polynucleotide comprising the cPPT and CTS regions are derived from a yeast retrotransposon.

51. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recombinant cell comprising a vector according to claim 41.

52-61. (CANCELED)